

Recognitions at March 2009 State Board Meeting

No Child Left Behind's American Star of Teaching recognizes superior teachers who have a track record of improving student achievement. Honorees are recognized for using innovative instructional strategies and making a difference in the lives of their students.

Since 2004, the federal program has honored educators across all grade levels and subject areas. Winners are chosen from among 5,000 nominations annually. The program is part of the government's Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative that includes regional and district workshops, roundtables for teachers and principals, e-mail updates and digital learning.

- **Ruth Truluck – Wando High School Biology Teacher (Charleston County)**

State Superintendent Jim Rex (left in photo) and State Board member Cindy Clark (at right in photo) congratulate American Star of Teaching award winner Ruth Truluck, who's taught in Charleston County schools for more than 30 years.

Truluck is a mentor and serves as chair of her school's science department. She displays commitment and skill in helping students and gives assignments that connect students' science studies to real-world applications.

In the words of one of her students: "She relates classroom concepts to real life, and that makes them easier to understand. When she calls on someone in class, she doesn't accept 'I don't know' as an answer. She brings out the best in us."

